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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY North Korea

REPORT

SUBJECT Town Plan of Samsu-up,
Samsu-gun, Yanggang-do

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Information on installations in Samsu-up (DA 180715), keyed to a plan of the town, and on living conditions and products of the area

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I. DetailsSamsu-ŏp (town) Plan
September 1958

1. General Description: Samsu-ŏp, located at DA 180715 in Samsu-gun, Yanggang-do, was the seat of the township office of Samsu-myon, Samsu-gun and was called Sŏngnae-ri prior to the administrative reorganization in NK. Approximately 80 percent of the total area of Samsu-gun was in the deep mountains where there were practically no paddy fields. Ch'ŏngsu-ri, [redacted] for instance, was covered with forests, except a narrow strip of level ground on both sides of a stream that was flowing towards Nongp'yŏng-ni (DA 162793), Samsu-gun. The staple farm crop in Samsu-gun was the potato which was produced in plenty in 1958. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] The farmers in Samsu-gun also began to grow flax and hops (which became the raw material for the manufacture of sulphur) since 1957 in full swing according to the encouragement of the NK Government which purchased flax and hop blossoms (these blossoms were used as raw material of sulphur), and potatoes from the farmers in exchange for rice. The cultural and educational standard of the inhabitants in Samsu-gun was much lower than that in other parts of NK. It was spring in 1958 when electricity was first introduced to Samsu-ŏp which means it was the last seat of a county office to see the electric lights, and in Ch'ŏngsu-ri, there was not a single soul who possessed a radio. However, the inhabitants conquered all superstitious beliefs, and the laborers called each other as elder brother or younger brother according to seniority in age which was one of the local features in that area. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] they made some illegal sales of their farm crops among themselves, selling one small mal of rice at 100 Wŏn. Some of the inhabitants were recruited as laborers and were sent to the Soviet Union (very probably Siberia) following the Liberation, and five farmers from Ch'ŏngsu-ri joined this party of laborers to cut trees for two years. In the spring of 1958 too, there was a recruitment of tree cutters going to the Soviet Union, and one of the tree cutters at the Ch'ŏngsu Work Station, Samsu Forestry Station, [redacted] responded to the call, [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] laborers were forbidden to take their families with them, and they were expected to work three years in the Soviet Union. As coal mines or any other mines were not exploited in Samsu-gun, a campaign for the collection of mineral rocks was conducted throughout the county in 1957-1958, and grotesque rocks were picked up by people from the workshops, schools, and villages as competitive units. In the spring of 1958, a geological survey party, which consisted of a Soviet engineer and two Koreans explored the mountains in Ch'ŏngsu-ri [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] The members of the party

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examined the rocks which had been gathered by the villagers. But perhaps, these rocks were found of no value, because by the end of 1958, the mineral rock collection campaign was discontinued. The three principal industries in Samsu-gun were 1) The Samsu Forestry Station with four tree cutting work stations (see separate report); 2) the flax mill (small scale), one kilometer to the west of Samsu-~~yp~~, and 3) the Tongsu Livestock Farm in Tongsu-ri, Samsu-gun. The flax mill was a branch of the Pukch'ong Flax Mill, and it was run by approximately 100 employees, mostly females, reeling thread of flax grown in Samsu-gun and sending it to Pukch'ong [redacted]

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At the Tongsu Livestock Farm, hogs were raised [redacted]

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[redacted] There were no military establishments in Samsu-gun.

Between Samsu-~~yp~~ and Hyesan (DA 3283) buses ran, making one round trip by starting Hyesan at 0800 hours and arriving in Samsu-~~yp~~ at 1030 hours, and returning for Hyesan immediately. In addition, the bus running from Hyesan to Sinp'a (map coordinate unknown) which started from Sinp'a in the morning stopped at Samsu-~~yp~~ once each day. [redacted]

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[redacted] there were 28 villages in Samsu-gun, and about half of the inhabitants in Samsu-~~yp~~ were farmers who suffered no damages during the Korean War.

2. Explanation to the Samsu-~~yp~~ (town) Plan: (See Attachment):

- 1) Samsu-gun Central Hospital: Unique hospital in Samsu-~~yp~~, one-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls, built recently (year unknown); [redacted]
- 2) Samsu-gun Forestry Management Station: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls.
- 3) Samsu-gun Consumers' Cooperative Store: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls, staffed with 4-5 female employees.
- 4) Consumers' Cooperative Dining Hall: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls, accommodating 70-80 people.
- 5) Samsu-gun Party Headquarters: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls, 10 meters long.
- 6) Samsu-gun People's Committee: One-story old Korean type structure with tile roof, 10 meters long.

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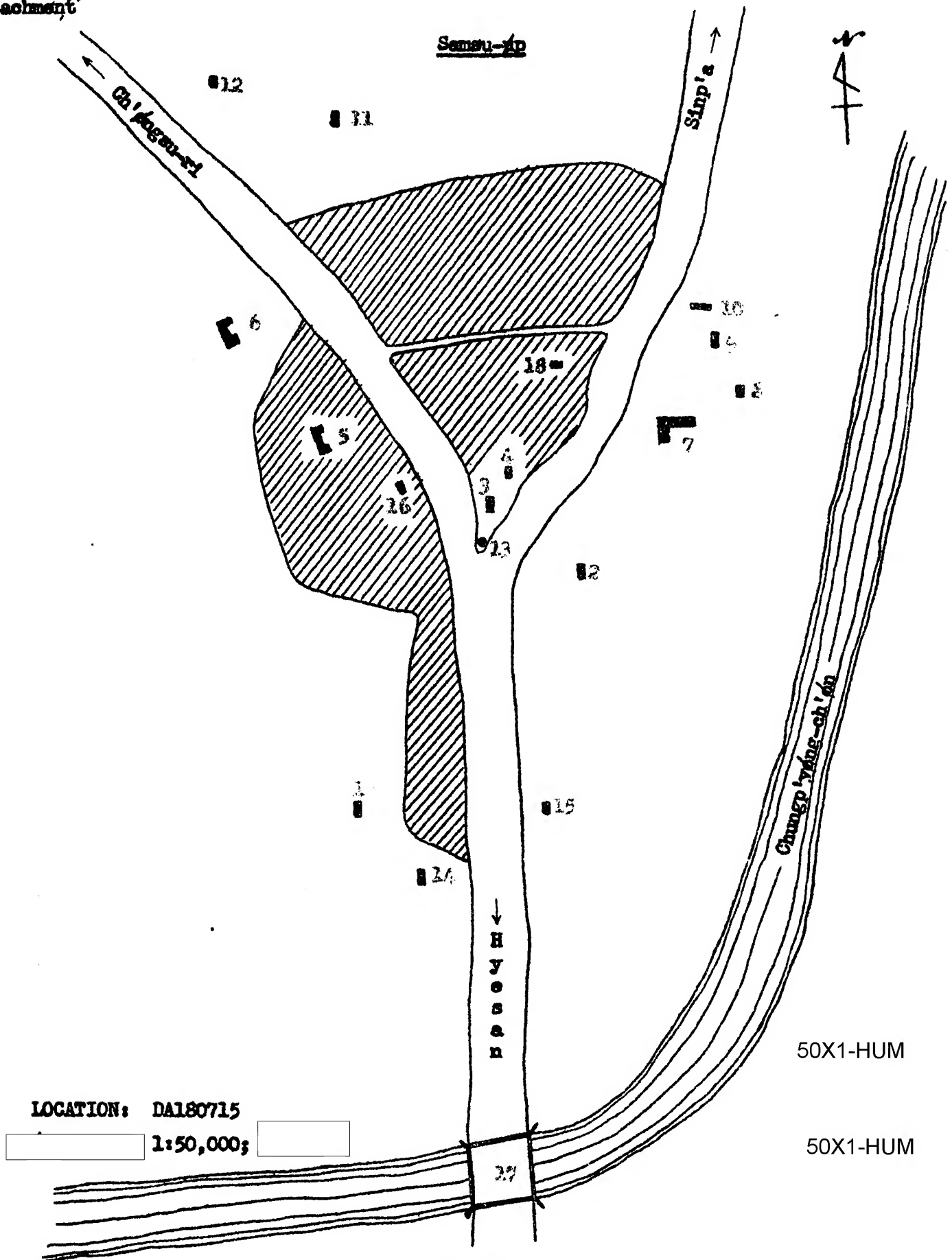
- 7) Samsu Senior Middle School: One-story wooden structure with board roof and mud walls, lime coated in upper part and board covered in lower part.
- 8) Samsu Forestry Station: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls, having 8 rooms.
- 9) Samsu Junior Middle School: One-story wooden structure with board roof and mud walls, lime coated in upper part and board covered in lower part.
- 10) Samsu Public School: One-story wooden structure with board roof and mud walls, lime coated in upper part and board covered in lower part.
- 11) Samsu Internal Affairs Station: One-story old Korean type structure with tile roof, number of personnel and sub-stations unknown.
- 12) Military Mobilization Department: One-story old Korean type structure with tile roof, staffed with a major, NKPA, and subordinates of unknown number.
- 13) Bus Stop: Here passengers took bus for Kyasan and Sinp'a, and bought tickets from the conductor.
- 14) Samsu Branch of the Central Bank: Size and structure unknown.
- 15) Samsu-gun Communications Department: One-story wooden structure with board roof and lime coated mud walls.
- 16) Motion Picture Theater: One-story wooden structure, equipped with wooden benches, accommodating 150 people; Admission: 30 Won.
- 17) Wooden Bridge: 5 meters wide.
- 18) Choil-mun (Gate of the Morning Sun): Old type structure with tile roof and four supporting poles, no walls.

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Attachment



LOCATION: DA180715

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